

Appl. No. 09/511,795
Amdt. Dated October 29, 2003
Reply to Office action mailed August 29, 2003

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1, 2, 5, 6, and 9-14 remain before the Examiner. Claim 15 has been added. The Applicant notes that claims 1, 2, 5, 6, and 9-14 presently stand rejected by the Examiner under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6, 233, 232 to Chau et al. (hereinafter "Chau") and notes Examiner's issues addressed as "dynamic bonding" and the definition of first and second "protocol."

Applicant thanks the Examiner for thoughtfully considering our most recent reply and reducing the issues to the two identified above. The Applicant respectfully offers the following arguments, as supported by the specification, to further clarify the dynamic nature of the invention and its resourceful use of a plurality of protocols fully enabled on a per port basis. The Applicant respectfully submits that the previously submitted claims are patently distinguishable over the prior art and are otherwise non-obvious. In consideration of the Examiner's recent action, the Applicant has added a new claim to further claim with particularity the invention and requests this new claim be entered and allowed.

The Applicant respectfully submits that the present invention as claimed has an activated media driver preferably triggering the generic forwarding interface (GFI) processing to activate a port interface (PIF) module that determines the layer two protocol to be used for the session based on the connection type with the generic forwarding interface binding or otherwise linking the determined layer two protocol to the layer one interface of the receiving media port for the duration of the session. After the session has ended, the PIF is made inactive. Then, this same media driver can be reactivated by a subsequent communication that preferably triggers the GFI processing to reactivate the PIF module which in turn determines the layer two protocol to be used for the subsequent session based on the connection type with the GFI binding or otherwise linking the determined layer two protocol to the layer one interface of the receiving port for the duration of the session. Accordingly, the present invention as claimed on a session-by-session basis, i.e., dynamically, binds or

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otherwise links the layer two protocol appropriate for the incoming communication to the layer one interface receiving the communication.

The single network access server (NAS) of Chau, the NAS receives client communications via ports dedicated to telephone lines where there is no suggestion of an apparatus or process that, on a session-by-session, a layer two protocol being determined based on the communication type and then the linking of the determined layer two protocol to the layer one interface of the receiving port.

Applicant believes that the remarks herein are fully responsive to the office action of August 29, 2003, and that the new claim 15 does not require a new search. In view of the above amendments and remarks, consideration and favorable action on claims 1, 2, 5, 6, and 9-14 and 15 are respectfully requested. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

Should any question remain in view of his communication, the Examiner is encouraged to call the undersigned so that a prompt disposition of this application can be achieved.

Authorization is hereby given to charge any additional fees, and credit any overcharges pertaining to the prosecution of this matter to Deposit Account No. 02-3979.

Respectfully submitted,



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